

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) Communication process, comprising the following steps:
 - supply of equipment fitted with at least one antenna and at least two pins connected to the antenna;
 - supply of a smart card with a chip supplied with:
 - at least two surface pins;
 - a processing module;
 - a radio-frequency interface associated with the processing module and connected to the surface pins of the card, the surface pins of the card being coupled to the pins of the equipment;
 - transmission of electrical signals between the surface pins of the card and the antenna.
2. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1, wherein the supplied chip is in the format given in ISO standard 7816-2 and ~~in that~~ wherein the surface pins of the card are pins C4 and C8.
3. (Previously Presented) Smart card with a chip fitted with at least two surface pins and a processing module further comprising a radio-frequency interface associated with the processing module and connected to the two surface pins.
4. (Previously Presented) Smart card according to claim 3, wherein the chip is in the ISO standard 7816-2 format and the surface pins of the card are pins C4 and C8.
5. (Previously Presented) Smart card according to claim 3, wherein the card is in the format defined in ISO standard 7816-1.
6. (Previously Presented) Smart card according to claim 3, e wherein the card is in the format of a GSM standard.

7. (Currently Amended) Equipment with an antenna and a coupling interface ~~that could be coupled~~ coupleable to a smart card, wherein:

- the coupling interface has two pins ~~that could be coupled~~ coupleable to surface pins of a ~~so-called~~ smart card; and
- the pins of the equipment are connected to the antenna.

8. (Previously Presented) Equipment according to claim 7, wherein:

- the pins on the equipment can be coupled to pins C4 and C8 of a smart card in the ISO standard 7816-2 format.

9. (Currently Amended) Equipment according to claim 7, wherein the equipment [[it]] is a cell phone.

10. (Currently Amended) Equipment according to claim 9, wherein:

- the ~~telephone~~ cell phone has a body and a removable battery; and
- the antenna is fixed to the removable battery.

11. (Currently Amended) Equipment according to claim 9, wherein:

- the ~~telephone~~ cell phone has a body and a removable battery; and
- the antenna is fixed to the body.

12. (Previously Presented) Equipment according to claim 7, wherein the equipment is an automobile vehicle.

13. (Currently Amended) Equipment according to claim 7, wherein [[it]] the equipment is a PDA.

14. (Previously Presented) Equipment according to claim 7, wherein the equipment is a smart card support.

15. (Currently Amended) Equipment according to claim 7, wherein the equipment [[it]] is a storage device.

16. (Currently Amended) Equipment according to claim 7, wherein ~~the equipment~~ the antenna is active.

17. (New) A communications process comprising:
providing equipment having an antenna adapted to transmit and/or receive signals for use by the equipment;
providing a smart card having a chip, a contact, a processing module and a radio-frequency interface associated with the processing module and connected to the contact, with the contact being connected to the antenna; and
transmitting electrical signals between the card and the antenna via the contact.

18. (New) The process of claim 17, further comprising:
providing the smart card with at least two unused surface contacts; and
transmitting electrical signals between the at least two unused surface contacts and the antenna.

19. (New) The process of claim 18, wherein providing the smart card with the at least two unused surface contacts comprises providing the smart card in ISO standard 7816 format and providing the contacts as contacts C4 and C8 as defined by ISO standard 7816.

20. (New) A communication system comprising:
a smart card having a radio-frequency interface; and

external equipment communicating with the smart card, the equipment having an antenna adapted to transmit and/or receive signals for use by the external equipment, the radio-frequency interface of the smart card connected to the antenna of the equipment wherein signals from the radio-frequency interface are transmitted to the antenna of the external equipment to increase a communication range of the smart card.

21. (New) The system of claim 20, further comprising at least two unused surface contacts, wherein the radio-frequency interface of the smart card is connected to the antenna via the at least two unused surface contacts.

22. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the smart card is in ISO standard 7816 format and wherein the contacts are C4 and C8 as defined by ISO standard 7816.

23. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the external equipment is an electronic device.

24. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the electronic device is one of a cell phone and a PDA.

25. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the external equipment is an automobile.

26. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the electronic device comprises a body and a removable battery and wherein the antenna is fixed to the removable battery.

27. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the electronic device comprises a body and a removable battery and wherein the antenna is fixed to the body.